

House Resolution 1440

By: Representatives Carter of the 175th, Black of the 174th, Shaw of the 176th, and Royal of the 171st

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Ronald M. Zaccari upon the occasion of his retirement from
2 Valdosta State University; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Ronald M. Zaccari is the president of Valdosta State University, a regional
4 university of more than 11,200 students from 46 states and 63 countries, offering 56
5 undergraduate and 46 graduate degrees; and

6 WHEREAS, during President Zaccari's tenure, the enrollment has increased by more than
7 14 percent; and

8 WHEREAS, immediately upon his arrival in 2002, he launched an intensive strategic
9 planning process that has secured approximately \$263 million in capital construction,
10 including additional residence halls, two multilevel parking facilities, a student union, a
11 student health center, and a health sciences and business administration facility; and

12 WHEREAS, one of his most significant contributions to Valdosta State University is the new
13 Health Sciences and Business Administration facility, which is currently on the state's capital
14 project list; and

15 WHEREAS, this \$47 million facility will directly respond to the state's critical need for more
16 health care professionals, represent a partnership with the region's medical community, serve
17 as a tremendous economic impact on South Georgia, and provide the needed facilities to
18 increase educational opportunities for citizens of Georgia; and

19 WHEREAS, in 2007 he received the Governor's Award for Historic Preservation
20 Stewardship, presented by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources in recognition of
21 his significant leadership and achievement in historic preservation as it relates to state owned
22 or administered properties or projects; and

1 WHEREAS, he has a deep respect for every member of the faculty and staff, student,
2 alumnus, and friend of the university, is an unfailing teacher and mentor, and he has worked
3 tirelessly with the campus community and outside groups to move Valdosta State University
4 to a new level of excellence and performance; and

5 WHEREAS, President Zaccari is a national leader in the field of higher education, serving
6 on numerous state, regional, and national boards, including being a member of the American
7 Association of State College and Universities (AASCU) board of directors and the AASCU
8 Commission on Public University Renewal; and

9 WHEREAS, in 2005, president Zaccari was one of 35 public university presidents invited
10 to participate with the U.S. Secretary of Education in a three-day summit focusing on
11 mathematics and science initiatives, and he is a founding member of the Valdosta-Lowndes
12 Partnership for Metropolitan Development, which is a coalition of 25 community leaders
13 charged with developing a strategic vision for the Valdosta-Lowndes geographical region;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, the legacy of President Zaccari will include not just mortar and bricks, but the
16 transformation of a campus culture that has changed lives in positive, sensitive, and lasting
17 ways.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
19 the members of this body recognize and commend President Ronald M. Zaccari on the
20 occasion of his retirement and his exemplary service to Valdosta State University, his
21 community, and this state.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
23 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to President Ronald M.
24 Zaccari.